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CHINA.

Reports from Hongkong.

Passed Assistant Surgeon McMullen reports as follows: Week ended September 19, 1903. Eight vessels, with 726 crew and 378 passengers (138 cabin and 240 steerage), were inspected and granted bills of health. Five hundred and sixty-three crew and 230 steerage passengers were bathed and their effects disinfected. One case and 1 death from plague (Chinese) was the only communicable disease reported for the week. The local papers state that plague is present in Newchwang and 500 cases have occurred. For two weeks ended September 21 there were 633 rats caught in Hongkong, and 10 of these were infected with plague.

Week ended September 26, 1903. Eleven vessels, with 832 crew and 642 passengers (203 cabin and 439 steerage), were inspected and granted bills of health. Six hundred and ninety-five crew and 429 steerage were bathed and their baggage (1,172 pieces) disinfected. There were 9 rejections from all causes. The communicable diseases reported for the week were as follows: Cholera, 1 case and 1 death; plague, 2 cases and 2 deaths—all Chinese.

It is reported that 50 or 60 cases of plague are occurring daily at Newchwang.

COLOMBIA.

Report from Bocas del Toro, fruit port.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Osterhout reports, October 28, as follows: Week ended October 27, 1903. Number of deaths during the week 2. Prevailing disease, malarial fever. The two deaths noted were due respectively to malarial fever, 1; tuberculosis, 1. General sanitary condition of this port and the surrounding country during the week, good.

Bills of health were issued to the following-named vessels:

Date.	Name of vessel.	Number of crew.	Number of passengers from this port.	Number of passengers in transit.	Pieces of baggage disinfected.
Oct. 21	Brookline	32	0	0	0
23	Belvernon	20	0	0	0
23	Fort Gaines	22	2	0	3
25	Banes	20	0	0	0
27	Uller	16	0	0	0

COSTA RICA.

Report from Limon, fruit port.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Gruver reports, October 30, as follows: Week ended October 29, 1903. Present officially estimated population, 4,000. Number of cases of yellow fever during the week, 2; deaths, 2; number of deaths from other causes during the week, 4; prevailing diseases, malarial and yellow fever. General sanitary condition of this port and the surrounding country during the week, very poor.

Bills of health were issued to the following vessels:

Date.	Name of vessel.	Number of crew.	Number of passengers from this port.	Number of passengers in transit.	Pieces of baggage disinfected.
Oct. 24	Olympia	39	1	0	0
25	Brewster	33	0	0	0
26	Valencia	44	5	3	0
27	Buckman	36	0	0	0
29	Appomattox	47	0	0	0

CUBA.

Report from Cienfuegos.

Acting Assistant Surgeon McMahon reports, October 28, as follows: Week ended October 24, 1903. Bills of health were issued to four vessels going to ports in the United States. All in good sanitary condition and no sickness on board of any of them.

The mortuary report for this week and the week previous has not been received up to this date, and it will be forwarded as soon as I can obtain it.

No quarantinable disease has been reported in the city or arrived at this port.

I am making a thorough inspection of the entire city at present and hope to finish this week that I may make a report of the same on November 1.

Outbreak of scarlet fever in Habana, Matanzas, Regla, and Guanabacoa.

Assistant Surgeon Trotter reports, November 2, as follows: Doctor Alfonso, the sanitary inspector of the city government, stated this morning, November 2, that there were about 1,000 cases of scarlet fever in the city. The mortality has been about 7 per cent. Cases are also reported from Matanzas, Regla, and Guanabacoa. The mayor has issued an order closing all public and private schools in Habana. The Junta Superior de Sanidad are insisting upon isolation of the cases, disinfection of the premises, and other measures tending to the control of the disease.

Reports from Matanzas—Scarlet fever in Canasi—Mortuary statistics.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Nunez reports, November 3, as follows: Week ended October 31, 1903. Six bills of health were issued during same period to vessels leaving for ports in the United States; all in good sanitary condition.

Six cases of scarlet fever, of which 5 occurred at Canasi, a rural town within this district, about 24 miles distant, and 1 in the central part of this city, have been reported during the past week. The contagion in the first and sixth cases was directly traceable to Habana, where, according to local papers, over 400 cases have been reported lately. The epidemic assumes a mild type generally and, so far, shows a low rate of mortality. Strict measures are being taken by the health authorities with the case reported within the city. A permanent guard has been stationed opposite the door to prevent all communica-